

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 039880  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY M/CT:RPMYERS

APPROVED BY M/CT:MR. KARKASHIAN

S/S:SGOLDSMITH

-----230106 004869 /64

O 230035Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 039880

EXDIS

FOL RPT BOGOTA 01538 ACTION SECSTATE 16 FEB 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T BOGOTA 01538

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, CO

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER : SITREP 8

THE AFTERNOON BOGOTA TABLOID " EL BOGOTANO",  
WHICH IS A NOTORIOUSLY IRRESPONSIBLE BUT UNFORTUNATEELY WIDELY-  
READ PUBLICATION, CARRIES PROMINENT STORY ALLEGING THAT STARR  
WAS CIA AGENT. THE ITEM IS HEADLINED "GRINGO CAPTURED IN THE  
LLANOS CONDEMNED TO DIE ACCORDING TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF FARC  
REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL". THIS SO CALLED "ANNOUNCEMENT" IS NOT  
MENTIONED IN THE ARTICLE ITSELF AND IS UNDOUBTEDLY PRODUCT OF  
EDITOR'S PERVERSE IMAGINATION. IMMEDIATELY UPON LEARNING OF THE  
ARTICLE, USIS BOGOTA ISSUED A STATEMENT TO ALL MEDIA ON BEHALF OF  
EMBASSY, DEPLORING AND CATEGORICALLY DENYING ITS ALLEGATIONS. OUR  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 039880

STATEMENT STRESSED THAT STARR WAS PC VOLUNTEER WHO CAME TO  
COLOMBIA AT REQUEST OF THE COLOMBIAN INSTITUTE WITH WHICH HE WAS  
WORKING AT TIME OF CAPTURE AND THAT HE HAD DEVOTED HIMSELF TO  
PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR BENEFIT OF COLOMBIAN PEOPLE.  
SANCHE  
Z

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, PRESS RELEASES, ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE039880  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RPMYERS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770062-0023  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770217/aaaaaexp.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f02461c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3251568  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KIDNAPPING OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER : SITREP 8 THE AFTERNOON BOGOTA TABLOID "EL BOGOTANO", WHICH IS A NOTORIOUSLY IRRESPONSIBLE BUT UNFORTUNATE  
**TAGS:** ASEC, PINS, CASC, SOPN, CO, PC, EL BOGOTANO, (STARR)  
**To:** MEXICO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f02461c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009